



Proclamation

WHEREAS, the safety and well-being of children is a priority of this state; and

WHEREAS, more than 200,000 children are injured on playgrounds in the United States each year, equaling an average of one playground-related emergency room visit every two-and-one-half minutes; and

WHEREAS, the National Program for Playground Safety has been created at the University of Northern Iowa to help inform the nation about playground injuries and possible ways to reduce the number of injuries; and

WHEREAS, the National Program for Playground Safety has identified key areas that could help substantially reduce the number of playground injuries and keep our children SAFE - providing: proper Supervision, Age appropriate equipment, materials to soften Falls to the surface, and Equipment maintenance; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate to set aside a week each year for thought and direction on how to keep our children safer on playgrounds; and

WHEREAS, spring is often a time that children head to the playground and a large percentage of playground injuries occur from April through June; and

WHEREAS, schools, parks, and other public facilities are preparing for summer season and playground participants; and

WHEREAS, all of us that care about children make the commitment that no Louisiana child shall play on an unsafe playground; and

WHEREAS, the National Program for Playground Safety has designated April 26-30, 2004, as National Playground Safety Week.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kathleen Babineaux Blanco, Governor of the state of Louisiana, do hereby proclaim April 26-30, 2004, as

PLAYGROUND SAFETY WEEK

in the state of Louisiana, and urge all citizens to join in this important observance.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand officially and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Louisiana, at the Capitol, in the City of Baton Rouge, on this the 4 th day of April A.D., 2004.

Kathleen Babineaux Blanco
Governor of Louisiana



Attest By
The Governor

Joseph Keithen
Secretary of State